

DSMC COLLABORATES WITH UT-AUSTIN ON NEW GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM

Partnering in New Ways with Industry and Higher Education

Collie J. Johnson

Speaking at a Press Conference held at the National Press Club, Washington D.C., on 8 March 1995, Brig. Gen. Claude M. Bolton, Jr., USAF, Commandant, Defense Systems Management College (DSMC), welcomed the University of Texas at Austin (UT-Austin) and its representatives to DSMC's Fort Belvoir campus. As a result of the critical need for educational programs that link directly to helping U.S. industry become more competitive in the world marketplace, UT-Austin, beginning in August 1995, will offer a Master of Science degree in Science & Technology Commercialization in the Washington, D.C. area. This degree will prepare industry and government executives, federal laboratory and military technology managers to better commercialize technology in the public and private sectors.

DSMC as Host

According to General Bolton, "this relationship continues our [DSMC] College's involvement in partnerships in education with institutions of higher learning." He noted that we already provide facilities for the George Washington University, Northern Vir-

ginia Community College, Strayer College and the University of Maryland.

Referring to Department of Defense's (DoD) continuing efforts in the area of acquisition reform, Gen-

eral Bolton stated that the agreement between UT-Austin and the Fort Belvoir garrison commander is in line with recent Federal Government initiatives to reinvent government under the National Performance Review.



Photo by Richard Mattox

Ms. Johnson is Managing Editor, Program Manager, DSMC Press.

Program Manager

It's "hands-across" in agreement for representatives of the Defense Systems Management College (DSMC), Fort Belvoir Army Education Center, and the University of Texas at Austin (UT-Austin). From left: Col. William E. Knight, USA, Dean, Division of College Administration and Services, DSMC; Ms. Nancy Johnson, Director, Army Education Center, Fort Belvoir, Va.; Dr. George Kozmetsky, Director, IC² Institute, UT-Austin; and Brig. Gen. Claude M. Bolton, Jr., USAF, Commandant, DSMC.

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"The title of the masters program itself—Science & Technology Commercialization—certainly reflects DoD initiatives to promote the dual use of technology for both defense and commercial usage, and supports the rationale of defense acquisition reform currently underway."

The DSMC, according to General Bolton, in aspiring to be the academy of management for the Department of Defense and the four Military Services, is in its 24th year of educating and training today's defense program managers in sound systems management principles. "Surely," he continued, "the University of Texas program will parallel much of what we teach our military, government civilian, and defense industry students. I believe this is another excellent opportunity for government and academe to learn and profit from one another."

About the Course

The agreement was preceded by months of preparation and restructuring by UT-Austin. Realizing that a critical core of technology managers in the Washington D.C. area could benefit from such a program, UT-Austin developed and structured the curricula so that students could remain on the job while pursuing a graduate degree in Science & Technology Commercialization. Interestingly, this is the first degree program that UT-Austin has offered totally outside the state of Texas.

The program will be offered in "executive" format, with classes held every other week on Friday and Saturday. To allow students greater latitude in remaining on their job or post, UT-Austin structured the program to provide completion and graduation in 12 months. Applicants must apply to the Graduate School of the University of Texas at Austin.



Dr. George Kozmetsky, Director, IC² Institute; and Graduate Adviser of the UT-Austin Science and Technology Commercialization Degree, delivers a message on UT-Austin's new graduate degree program. Dr. Kozmetsky is the recipient of the 1994 National Medal of Technology (awarded by the U.S. Department of Commerce).

Photo by Richard Mattox

sonal computer with modem so they can communicate with professors and other students during non-class times, and conduct research through on-line computer network services.

Dr. Kozmetsky's Role

Dr. George Kozmetsky, the Dean of Graduate Studies and Director of the IC² Institute at UT-Austin, welcomed the agreement. Speaking at the Press Conference, Kozmetsky spoke of the rapid expansion of the commercialization career field. "As the United

States creates more jobs and wealth and maintains a leadership position in the world marketplace, the commercialization of federal, university and privately developed research and development is a key competitive advantage. This career field is expanding at a rapid pace, with increasing demand for knowledgeable professionals who can actively participate in the successful transfer and commercialization of technology."

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The new graduate degree program consists of 33 course hours and offers students a choice of concentration in technology policy or in technology enterprise. A Master of Science degree will be conferred upon the successful completion of course work and a professional report. Prospective students should have a minimum of 5 years' experience in management, and will be required to have access to a per-

DSMC —

A Proud Participant

Concluding his remarks, General Bolton stated that we at the Defense Systems Management College "are proud to be a continuing active participant in helping to research, devise and promote the acquisition reform measures directed by Dr. William Perry, the Secretary of Defense." As his final comment, he stated that "we are excited and proud about our new partner in education, the University of Texas at Austin, and look forward to a mutually satisfactory relationship with them in the future."

Editor's Note: For more information, prospective students should call 1-800-218-6782 or E-Mail: exec.ms@icc.utexas.edu.